

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claim 3 to remove the phrase “,used in its construction” as suggested in the Office Action and to further clarify the claimed invention by providing antecedent basis for certain of the terms in the claim.

In addition, applicant has amended each of independent claims 1-3 to clarify that the cover defines an unreinforced mounting hole extending therethrough for receiving a mounting insert. Applicant submits that the Nishimuro patent cited in the Office Action does not disclose a disk drive cover having an unreinforced mounting hole extending through the cover for receiving a mounting insert, as recited in amended claims 1-3. Nor does the secondary reference cited in the Office Action, Japanese patent application 09-276755. Therefore, applicant submits that claims 1 and 3 are not anticipated by the Nishimuro patent and claim 2 is not obvious over the Nishimuro patent in view of the Sato application (*see* MPEP § 2142, stating that one of the elements of a *prima facie* case of obviousness is that the cited references must teach or suggest every limitation of the claim).

Applicant has also added new claims 4-6. Independent method claim 4 includes the step “perforating the cover with an insertion to form an unreinforced mounting hole in the cover for receiving a mounting insert.” As discussed previously, neither the Nishimuro patent nor the Sato application disclose or suggest this step. Therefore, applicant submits that, for at least this reasons, new claims 4-6 are patentable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

Entry of the present amendments and examination at an early date are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner is of the opinion that the present application is in condition for disposition other

than allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below in order that the Examiner's concerns may be expeditiously addressed.

Respectfully submitted,



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